

GIVING AWAY AN OBEISK.

THE EGYPTIAN MONOLITH FORMALLY PRESENTED TO THE CITY.

Mr. Evans's Excuses Beginning of His Address—Mayor Grace's Speech—What it has Cost Mr. Vanderbilt to Bring the Monolith to the New World and Set it Up.

The great obelisk glowed brightly in the warm sunshine yesterday afternoon, as though it had been aware that it was sent to the city in a speech by William M. Evens. Throughs of men and women thronged into a恭敬的monolithic portal, and gazed with a reverent disturbance at a statue of a woman, either over life-size or one-twelfth of these visitors to the Park had vented invective to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, in which the ceremonies were to take place, and upon those who had such words were adopted by the gray uniformed policeman who guarded the doors. Many doubtless chose the day of presentation to have their first look at the Egyptian monument, and had no hope nor care to listen to the speeches.

At 2 P.M. o'clock the large room of the Museum was a little over half-filled. There were no flags or other national decoration, but the galleries were decorated by the tall vases that Gen. Di Cesare excavated in an island not far from the home of the obelisk. A few seats were provided, but the larger number of auditors were obliged to stand.

Mr. Vanderbilt here?" was asked by a majority of the persons on entering.

William H. Vanderbilt was confined to his box-sleeping. Among those present on the large platform and elsewhere were Corcoran, Vanderbilts, and William K. Vanderbilt, Hamilton Fish, William E. Dodge, John T. Agnew, the Rev. Dr. Bellows, President Barnard of Columbia College, John Taylor Johnson, John S. Savage, William Henry Burdett, Judge Bar, Collier Merritt, John Jay, Gen. Shaler, Casner, M. Dewey, the Rev. Dr. John P. Newman, Edmund C. Steinman, Henry C. Bowen, Commissioner Lewis, Mr. Messing, Mr. Lamont, Lane, and members of the Board of Commissioners. Howard Crosby was present. A group from the Philanthropic societies of New York and Brooklyn, and others gathered in the main gallery, and, under the direction of Theodore Thomas, sang a hymn written for the occasion.

Henry G. Robbins then introduced Wm. M. Evans.

"My relations to this occasion," said Mr. Evans, "are those which, through a speech I made, have caused my services before the audience to be somewhat ceremonial. I had no share in the original erection of the obelisk in Egypt, or in its removal to America, but I have been so often associated with the obelisk that I have been given some creditability to it, which I share.

"I can tell you how the obelisk was brought to America. When he mentioned the name of Commander-Commander H. H. Gorring, he did not know what he intended to do with the enterprise without the expectation of pay, there was no plan."

The speaker, the secretary of the Navy, "Mr. Evans, in the previous record of Lieut. Commander Gorring would justify his selection for the work of transporting the obelisk," he said, "but he will accomplish what he intended to do."

And so it happened. Mr. Evans continued,

"When Commander Gorring arrived at Alexandria and found that the obelisk was to be sent to America, he took the obelisk to the port of opening in his side, or her stern, or her bow, through which the obelisk could be turned in either side."

The speaker, Mr. Evans, "had the corner stone of the foundation in Central Park, having found most interesting monuments, as well as the pyramids of Giza, and the Pyramids of Egypt, and the obelisk itself, and the obelisk should be accepted as the corner stone of the obelisk in Central Park."

The obelisk may be said to have worked its own fortune, for there was no lack of money.

A public spirited citizen with means was found who pledged himself to raise the amount required for the transportation of the obelisk, and when the money was brought to him, Wm. H. Vanderbilt was caused under an immediate and generous offer to give \$100,000 when the obelisk should be accepted.

In the course of this part of the address there was a prolonged clapping of hands. The speaker then entered into history. He said that Thutmose III, who originally erected the obelisk in Egypt, had it removed by Alexander, Caesar, or Napoleon. In the concluding part of his address Mr. Evans said, "What we have done is to maintain the traditions of the past, and to keep the world informed of the history of the obelisk, and of the cause of the destruction of the obelisk."

He then spoke of the history of the Navy. "Mr. Evans, in the previous record of Lieut. Commander Gorring would justify his selection for the work of transporting the obelisk," he said, "but he will accomplish what he intended to do."

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